PATENT

DOCKET NO.: CING-0385 (567 US)

Application No.: 09/850,181

Office Action Dated: October 18, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently amended) A method of establishing a communication session, the method comprising:

prior to receiving a request to facilitate establishing [[a]] the communication session between a communication initiator and an intended recipient,

at a central location, storing information about multiple a plurality of communication devices associated with the intended recipient, wherein at least two of the multiple plurality of communication devices are each associated with different respective networks in the a multi-networked environment;

at the central location, receiving status information regarding the plurality of communication devices from <u>the</u> respective networks, wherein the <u>receiving of</u> status information <u>includes</u>: <u>comprises information other than, or in addition to, whether the</u> multiple communication devices are on or off;

actively querying one or more of the networks in the multi-networked environment for status information that indicates information other than, or in addition to, whether the multiple communication devices are on or off, or

automatically receiving status information from at least one <u>a</u> network element in the first network or the second network, wherein the at least one network element is configured to automatically provide to the central location status information about at least one of the multiple communication devices associated with the intended recipient, and;

at the central location, receiving the request to facilitate establishing the communication session;

at the central location, in response to the received request, selecting a first one of the plurality of communication devices at which the intended recipient can likely be reached, wherein the selection is based, at least in part, on an evaluation of the received status information; and

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directing a call to one of the respective networks to which the selected communication device belongs to enable the communication session to be established with the selected communication device.

causing information associated with the communication initiator to be displayed on the first communication device; and

establishing the communication session between a second communications device selected by the intended recipient and a third communications device associated with the communication initiator.

- 50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the storing is performed through an Internet portal site by providing the intended recipient with a predetermined registration procedure to enroll in the service of the method.
- 51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the status information that indicates information other than, or in addition to, whether the multiple communication devices are on or off includes an indication of whether the multiple communication devices are currently on-line and when they were last active.
- 52. (Currently amended) In a multi-networked environment, a method of determining a communication device at which a user can likely be reached, the method comprising:

prior to receiving a request to facilitate establishing a communication session between a communication initiator and the user,

querying different types of networks in the multi-networked environment for status information, or automatically receiving the status information from network elements, wherein the status information pertains to at least two a plurality of communication devices associated with the user, including at least a first communication device and a second, different communication device, wherein the first communication device is associated with a first network in the multi-network environment[[,]] and wherein the second communication device is associated with a second, different network in the multi-networked environment;

receiving the status information for the at least two communication first and second communication devices from the first and second networks, wherein the status

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information includes status information other than, or in addition to, an indication of whether the at least two first and second communication devices are on or off; and

in response to receiving the request, selecting a preferred communication device from the at least two first and second communication devices based on the received status information, causing information associated with the communication initiator to be displayed on the preferred communication device, and handling the request according to a predetermined call treatment procedure if the user elects not to establish the communication session.

- 53. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52 wherein the status information includes activity information associated with the <u>first and second</u> communication devices.
- 54. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52 wherein the status information includes presence information associated with the [[,]] first and second communication devices.
- 55. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52 wherein the <u>first</u> communication device[[s]] includes at least two <u>one</u> of a telephone, cellular phone, personal computer and set-top box, and wherein the second communication device is a different type of device than the first communication device and includes one of a telephone, cellular phone, personal computer and set-top box.
- 56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the first network is an Internet, a telephone network, a cellular phone network, or a video network; and wherein the second network is a different type of network than the first network and is an Internet, a telephone network, a cellular phone network, or a video network.
- 57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the steps of querying, receiving, and selecting occur within an information system configured to communicate with the different types of networks in the multi-networked environment.

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58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the steps of querying, receiving, and selecting occur within an information system configured to communicate with the different types of networks in the multi-networked environment; and wherein the information system is a unified presence information system.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently amended) An apparatus for facilitating a communication session between a requestor and a user, the apparatus comprising:

a network interface configured for

querying at least one a plurality of different types of networks in the a multinetworked environment for status information, wherein the status information pertains to at least two a plurality of communication devices associated with the user, including a first communication device and a second communication device, wherein the first communication device is associated with a first network in the multi-network environment[[,]] and wherein the second communication device is associated with a second network in the multi-networked environment;

receiving the status information for the at least two first and second communication devices, wherein the status information includes status information other than, or in addition to, an indication of whether the at least two first and second communication devices are on or off; and

wherein the querying and receiving occurs independently of receiving a request for establishing [[a]] the communication session between the requester and the user,

a storage block configured for storing the received status information; and

a processor configured for selecting a preferred communication device from the set of multiple first and second communication devices based on the received status information, causing information associated with the requestor to be displayed on the preferred communication device, and establishing the communication session between a communications device selected by the user and a communications device associated with the requestor, wherein the processor performs the selecting in response to receiving the request for establishing [[a]] the communication session with the user.

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61. (New) The method of claim 52 further comprising causing information associated with the communication initiator to be displayed on the preferred communication device.

62. (New) The method of claim 52 further comprising directing a call to one of the first and second networks to which the preferred communication device belongs to enable the communication session to be established with the preferred communication device.

- 63. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the first communication device includes a personal computer, and wherein the second communication device includes one of a telephone, cellular phone, and set-top box.
- 64. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the first communication device includes a set-top box, and wherein the second communication device includes one of a telephone, cellular phone, and personal computer.
- 65. (New) A method of identifying a communication device at which a user can likely be reached, the method comprising:

prior to receiving a request for the identity of the communication device from a requestor:

storing information about a plurality of communication devices associated with the user, wherein each of the plurality of communication devices are associated with different respective networks in a multi-networked environment; and

receiving status information regarding the plurality of communication devices from the respective networks, wherein the status information comprises information other than, or in addition to, whether the multiple communication devices are on or off;

receiving the request for the identity of the communication device from the requestor; selecting the communication device at which the intended recipient can likely be reached from the plurality of communication devices associated with the user, wherein the selection is based, at least in part, on an evaluation of the received status information; and

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providing the requestor with the identity of the communication device at which the intended recipient can likely be reached in order to facilitate a communication session between the requestor and the user.